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Inter-American Bank Support
to the State Technical University

- The Role of Felipe Herrera

The Inter-American Bank (IDB) has decided to support the State Technical University (UTE) in Santiago with a loan of four million dollars.

The UTE has long been a center of radical activity, effectively exploiting the school radio station. Soon after the recent Chilean elections, the Chilean Communist Party (the PCCh) instructed the radio station staff to drop all pretense of being a cultural and educational medium and to concentrate on disseminating Communist Party and UP (Allende's party) propaganda.

The campus of UTE is now being patrolled by armed PCCh guards, and the radio station and printing plant have become strident propaganda outlets insisting on the confirmation of Allende in the roll call scheduled for 24 October in the Chilean congress.

Ironically, the UTE radio station is financed by the Chilean government, and the school is supported by IDB loans.

Felipe Herrera, Chilean President of the IDB, was one of the first to congratulate Allende on his recent electoral victory. The September 9th issue of Ultima Hora, a Santiago daily, carried the text of the message in which Herrera is quoted as wishing Allende every success in the "historic period which will be in your hands to direct."

The 23 September issue of Clarín of Santiago printed a photograph of Orlando Letelier, a top executive of IDB, presumably an emissary of Herrera, as he called on Allende. Letelier was described as one of the many visitors congratulating Allende on his victory.

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Well-informed sources in Santiago have reported that Allende is seriously considering offering the post of Foreign Minister to Herrera, who is due to return to Chile in October. These same sources predict that Herrera will accept the key position in Allende's new government--which presumably will be established on the lines of Allende's public pledges to convert Chile into a Marxist society.

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